

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/781,310)
Filing Date: February 13, 2001)
Inventor(s): Joseph Breedon)
Group Art Unit: 3694)
Examiner Name: Colbert, Ella)
Title: Vintage Maturation Analytics for)
Predicting Behavior and Projecting Cash Flow))
for Customer Communities and Their)
Responses to Economic, Competitive, or)
Management Changes.)
Customer No.: 27160)
Confirmation No.: 7942)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Official Action please enter the following Amendment:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-22. (Cancelled).

23-44. (Cancelled).

45-66. (Cancelled).

67. (Currently Amended). A method of predicting the behavior of a group of vintage loan accounts, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) receiving vintage performance data of said loan accounts;
- (b) decomposing said vintage performance data of said loan accounts by an age component and a component not related to the age of the loan account, wherein steps (a) and (b) are performed by a processor; and

- (c) forecasting the behavior of said vintage loan accounts based upon said age component and said component not related to said age component irrespective of data regarding any of the borrowers on any of the individual loan accounts.

68.-87 (Cancelled)

88. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 67, wherein step (b) comprises decomposing said vintage performance data of said loan accounts by an age component and one or more exogenous effects.

89. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 88 wherein step (b) comprises decomposing said vintage performance data of said loan accounts by an age component and seasonal effects.

90. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 88 wherein step (b) comprises decomposing said vintage performance data of said loan accounts by an age component and management actions.

91. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 88 wherein step (b) comprises decomposing said vintage performance data of said loan accounts by an age component and competitive influences.

92. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 88 wherein step (b) comprises decomposing said vintage performance data of said loan accounts by an age component and marketing campaigns.

93. (Cancelled)

94 (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 88 wherein step (b) comprises decomposing said vintage performance data of said loan accounts by an age component and economic conditions.

95. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 88 wherein step (b) comprises decomposing said vintage performance data of said loan accounts by an age component and management history.

96 (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 88, step (c) includes the step of determining the demographic characteristics of said past loan accounts in order to predict the future performance of said vintage loan accounts.

97- 100 (Cancelled)

101-112 (Withdrawn) \

REMARKS

Upon entry of the instant amendment, claims 67 and 88-92 and 94-96 are pending. Claim 67 has been amended to more particularly point out the Applicant's invention. Based upon the amendment and the remarks below, the Examiner is respectfully requested to provide favorable consideration of claims 67 and 88-92 and 94-96.

CLAIM REJECTIONS-35 USC § 102

Claims 67 and 88 have been rejected under 35 USC §102 (b) as being anticipated by Kealhofer US Patent No. 6,078,903 ("the Kealhofer patent"). In order for there to be anticipation, each and every one of the claim elements must be found in a single reference. It is respectfully submitted that the claims recite elements not found in the Kealhofer patent. For example, the claims recite a method of predicting the behavior of a group of loans that does not depend on any data of any of the borrowers on any individual loan accounts. The Kealhofer patent teaches away from such a method and relies on borrower data in its method. (*"A second class of data is **borrower data**. These are data that identify and characterize the **borrower** rather than the specific loan. They are the **borrower's** probabilities of default (Expected Default Frequencies or EDFs); also, the **borrower's** country, industries, business risk and systemic risk proportion. The latter information is used to determine entity correlations between **borrowers**, as discussed below.* Keelhofer patent, Col. 3, lines 52-56.) Thus, there can be no anticipation.

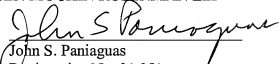
CLAIM REJECTIONS-35 USC § 103

Claims 89-92 and 94-96 have been rejected under 35 USC § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over the Keelhofer patent in view of Official Notice. These claims are dependent upon claims 67 and 88. As mentioned above, the method disclosed in the Keelhofer patent requires analysis of individual borrower data and is thus more cumbersome and complex than the system recited in the present invention which relies solely on data, such as vintage loan data or exogenous information, both of which are easily obtainable. For these reasons and the above reasons, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Respectfully submitted,

KATTEN MUCHIN ROSENMAN LLP

By:


John S. Paniaguas
Registration No. 31,051

KATTEN MUCHIN ROSENMAN LLP
1025 Thomas Jefferson Street, N.W.
East Lobby, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20007-5201
Telephone: (312) 902-5200
Facsimile: (312) 902-1061